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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 09/876,411 **Confirmation No.:** 7306
Applicant: Junichi Toyoda et al.
Filed: June 7, 2001
TC/A.U.: 2642
Examiner: Thjuan P. Knowlin
Docket No.: 075834.00086
Customer No.: 33448

**AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING REQUEST
FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

S I R:

Applicants hereby petitions for a three month extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a). The time to respond is thus extended to December 16, 2005. Applicant has authorized the Commissioner to charge the amount of \$1,020.00 to the Deposit Account No. 20-1495 as payment of the required fee as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a).

In response to the Office Action of September 16, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.

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RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

S I R:

In response to the Notice of Non-compliant Amendment dated December 28, 2005, Applicants have hereby submitted a revised copy of the amendment previously submitted in response to the last office action which includes the appropriate status identifiers for all of the claims.

Appl. No. 09/876,411
Amdt. Dated January 30, 2006
Reply to Office Action of September 16, 2005

Accordingly, in light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the response may now be considered.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: _____

1/30/06



Robert J. Depke
**TREXLER, BUSHNELL, GIANGIORGI
BLACKSTONE & MARR, LTD.**
105 W. Adams Street, 36th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60603
Tel: (312) 704-1890
Attorney for Applicants